

Message

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Sent: 3/26/2019 1:56:39 PM
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Subject: Notes from Sunday Elected Official Meeting - International Terminals Corporation Fire

On March 24, 2019, EPA participated in a meeting organized by the Texas Department of Emergency Management. The purpose was to have meeting to allow the local officials (mayors, county judge and state representatives) an opportunity to ask questions with the facility operator and state. EPA was invited to attend by a TCEQ representative. One federal representative also attended. It was Congresswoman Garcia from District 29. Below are some of the questions and requests made during the discussion:

- Who is responsible for inspecting the construction of the secondary containment to ensure it is properly constructed and why did it fail?
- Representative Garcia, state representatives and mayors would like a complete history of compliance from TCEQ and EPA. Chief Kid with TDEM would like EPA to pass our history through TCEQ for the state and local representatives.
- Is there a place that the general public can go to get all of the Agency's enforcement/compliance data for this facility?
- Is there a requirement to have a certain volume of foam based on the amount of product on-site at a facility? They heard that the facility ran out of foam. ITC said that they didn't run out of foam.
- They asked who regulates the design of facilities, specifically how close can tanks be to each other? It was mentioned that there are industry standards established by API that facilities and insurers use as guidelines.
- ITC said that they had sufficient funds to address the incident. They mentioned that they were owned by the Mizui Company.
- Several indicated that they wanted to know what took place, what was the cause and what needs to be done to fix things? It was mentioned that we are all focus on responding to the incident right now and the investigations will follow.
- The judge asked if the ITC has a plan in place to address long-term environmental and health impacts of citizens and responders? ITC said they were planning on a plan.
- At the end, Congresswoman Garcia said that she had talked with Congressman Babin and when she got back to D.C. they were going to "lean on EPA." I followed up with the Congresswoman after the meeting and she offered no details.